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April 19, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Special Group (CI) Meeting  
2:30 p.m., Thursday, April 18, 1963

PRESENT: Governor Harriman, the Attorney General, Mr. Bell, General Taylor, Mr. McCone, Mr. Murrow, Mr. Forrestal, Mr. Nitze  
vice Mr. Gilpatric

Mr. Evans, Mr. Engle, and Mr. Wolf were present for Item 1.

Mr. Maechling was present for the meeting.

1. Report on Public Safety Activities

Mr. Bell, in commenting on the AID report, stated that public safety operations are making headway but that, as the report indicates, much remains to be done. Follow-up procedures on procurement have been initiated with primary emphasis on improving procurement actions conducted overseas. Progress in recruiting qualified personnel with language skills is satisfactory but still remains a major problem.

Mr. Engle pointed out that manpower is the key to success in police programs and that his office is making every effort to build up their manpower resources.

The Group discussed with Mr. Engle the status of planning for the establishment of the International Police Academy and concluded that a detailed study should be made on the proposed curriculum, availability and criteria of students, faculty personnel and anticipated costs. The Attorney General suggested that this study should also consider the possibility of teaching in Spanish some of the subjects planned for the International Academy at the Inter-American Police Academy in Panama. He pointed out that the English language qualification required for the International Academy may place a limitation on the availability of students.

In accordance with Mr. Bell's suggestion the Group agreed that AID would report back to the Group in 8 weeks on the results of the foregoing study.

In response to a question Mr. Bell stated that the present 4-month lead time required to place police advisors on the job is not excessive due to processing requirements. However, methods are being examined to further reduce this lead time.

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Mr. Engle stated that AID planning for the utilization of 20 officers provided by DOD is being actively pursued, with several entering on duty in May.

Mr. Engle observed that the importance placed on police programs by country teams varies with each individual country. The group agreed that a message should be sent to the field reiterating the high priority placed on police assistance programs, and that they receive proper recognition, organizationally, within AID missions, and that public safety advisors are represented when internal security matters are discussed within the country team. AID will prepare this message in collaboration with State.

Mr. Bell remarked that the current budget is adequate to support our police programs, but, if Congressional cuts in the FY 64 budget are significant, it may cause some problems in carrying out the proposed programs.

Mr. McCone observed that sometimes the decisions of the Special Group (CI) are not effectively carried out due to subsequent cuts in the allocation of financial resources required to support these decisions. He believed that it would be desirable if the Group were informed of budgetary actions that have an effect on these decisions to enable the Group to take further action if necessary.

It was agreed that AID would submit another status report to the Group on public safety activities in 3 months.

2. Follow-up report on Thailand from April 11 meeting.

a. Availability of a Portable Radio Transmitter

Mr. Murrow reported to the Group that the Australians have offered to provide two 50KW radio transmitters to Thailand and that the Thai Government has purchased two 100KW transmitters from RCA. However, it is estimated that these two permanent transmitters will not be operational for about 2 years. Mr. Murrow stated that the Army has a portable transmitter available that could be utilized during this interim period to provide radio coverage in the Northeast area of Thailand.

Mr. Murrow recommended that the Group consider the utilization of this equipment in Thailand as a high priority requirement; that USIA accept the loan of this equipment and technical operators from the Army for the period of two years; and that USIA and the country team work out necessary programming arrangements with the Thai Government.

The Group agreed that USIA should accept the Army's offer for loan of the portable transmitter and technical operators and that shipment of the transmitter should be by sea to cut transportation costs.

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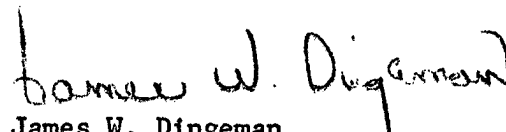
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Defense agreed to consider funding the transportation and operation costs.

b. MAP Supported Forces.

The DOD report was circulated to the members.



James W. Dingeman  
Executive Secretary  
Special Group (CI)

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